

Proposed Recommendations
Consolidated Community Funding Pool Funding Priorities
For the Funding Cycle Which Begins July 1, 2002

A major responsibility of the Consolidated Community Funding Advisory Committee (CCFAC) is to recommend, for Board of Supervisors' approval, funding priorities for the allocation of funds from Consolidated Community Funding Pool (CCFP). This report presents, for public review and comment, the draft priorities for the cycle that begins July 1, 2002. The CCFAC will hold a public hearing on June 12, 2001 to receive comments from all interested parties about the proposed priority allocations. After review of the public comments, the CCFAC will finalize the funding priority allocations and forward them to the Board of Supervisors for action. Details about the public hearing are as follows:

Consolidated Community Funding Advisory Committee
Public Hearing on the Proposed Funding Priorities for Fiscal Year 2001

June 12, 2001

7:30 p.m.

Conference Rooms #9 & #10
Fairfax County Government Center
12000 Government Center Parkway
Fairfax, VA

For more information, or to sign up to speak at the public hearing, please Queen Gaymon at (703) 246-5170 (TTY: 703-385-3578). Persons representing organizations are asked to limit their testimony to five minutes. Others are asked to limit their testimony to three minutes. In addition, written comments will be accepted until 12:00 Noon on June 12, 2001. Comments should be forwarded to:

Consolidated Community Funding Advisory Committee
c/o Fairfax County Department of Housing and Community Development
Community Development Division
Attention: Queen Gaymon
3700 Pender Dr., Suite 300
Fairfax, VA 22030
Fax: (703) 246-5115
E-mail: queen.gaymon@co.fairfax.va.us

Community Input, Data Collection Process

The CCFAC maintains an ongoing process for the review and analysis of both data and community input that provides the information on which funding priority allocations are based. Community input processes include a variety of citizen and provider input activities conducted throughout the year around the County. The data that the CCFAC considers in setting funding priorities include County Human Service agency service delivery and demand data, general demographic and economic data and various assessment studies and other analyses conducted by the County government and others. In addition, the CCFAC also draws on the data provided by CCFP providers as part of their contract reporting process. Finally, the CCFAC conducts a public hearing on the proposed funding priorities for the allocation of CCFP funds.

The CCFAC has published a summary compendium of the most currently available community need indicator data on which the proposed priority area allocations are based. That document cites a variety of more detailed sources of information providing insight into County human service need. That document entitled "Consolidated Community Funding Advisory Committee Funding Priority Needs Data" is available by contacting Queen Gaymon at the above address or by visiting the CCFP section of the County's web site at:

<http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/service/ccfp>

General economic and demographic information for the County may be found at:

<http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/comm/demogrph>

The CCFAC is committed to making a wide range of human service need data available to organizations submitting proposals for CCFP funding as well as others interested in information that can be used in addressing community human service needs.

Use of Funding Priorities

The CCFAC has organized its proposed funding priorities according to six priority areas. All of the priority areas are considered by the CCFAC to be important. However, given limited funding, the CCFAC is committed to establishing funding priorities based on the best available data and input, and in consideration of the role CCFP funds play in the overall County and community approach to addressing human services needs.

The priority areas are not intended to be prescriptive. Rather, they are intended as guides for Consolidated Community Funding Pool applicants and for the citizens Selection Advisory Committee that will be reviewing applications for funding. Applicants will determine for themselves which priority area is most relevant to what they hope to achieve through their proposals. For some applicants, as many as two priority areas will be germane to their proposals.

Funding Priorities for the Period Beginning July 1, 2002 (FY 2003)

Despite a very strong local economy over the duration of the FY 2001 and 2002 CCFP funding period, significant housing and human service needs remain in Fairfax County. The Consolidated Community Funding Advisory Committee (CCFAC) has made a general review of the most current available data indicative of both specific and overall human service need in Fairfax County. In addition, the CCFAC has reviewed the most recent performance and outcome data for programs funded in the Pool. The general review of this data indicates that relative proportion of need by CCFP Priority Area has not undergone significant change from the current funding cycle. ***Accordingly, it is the intent of the CCFAC to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the percentage allocation of Pool funds by Priority Area remain unchanged for next CCFP funding cycle.***

The table below summarizes the recommended target percentages for each priority area for the Consolidated Community Funding Pool. In addition to setting forth the priorities based on a consideration of needs, the recommended target percentage allocations for the upcoming funding cycle will inform CCFP applicants about the relative availability of funds within each priority area. They will also serve as guides for the CCFP Selection Advisory Committee in evaluating proposals. As in the past, the target percentages are meant to be helpful but not prescriptive in their application.

Recommended Target %

Priority Area	FY01/FY02 Current	Proposed
1. People Find & Maintain Safe, Appropriate & Affordable Housing	27%	27%
2. People Have the Skills and Supports They Need to Be Self-Sufficient	21%	21%
3. Families and Individuals are Healthy, Stable, and Independent	18%	18%
4. Youth Make Safe, Responsible Decisions	14%	14%
5. Families and Individuals Meet Their Basic Needs	11%	11%
6. Communities are Safe, Supportive, Inclusive, and Thriving	9%	9%

A brief discussion of the data leading to the proposed priorities follows. The descriptions of the Priority Areas, beginning on the following page, include examples of services that support the Priority Areas. These examples are meant to be illustrative. They are neither exclusive nor comprehensive

Priority Area 1**Target Funding Percentage 27%****People Find and Maintain Safe, Appropriate and Affordable Housing**

The target funding percentage for this priority area stayed constant between FY 2000 and FY 2001/2002.

Average rents in Fairfax County have increased by over 16% between 1998 and 2000 and are likely to continue to increase given extremely low vacancy rates (1.6% in 2000). Waiting lists for subsidized housing programs are long (7,500 for Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) programs). The Annual Point in Time Survey of the Homeless indicates that the number of homeless persons has remained relatively constant (741 individuals and 1,193 families) between January 2000 and January 2001. Requests for assistance with eviction prevention received by Coordinated Services Planning remain high at about 3,200 per year over the last two years.

Examples of populations that could be supported through this outcome: low/moderate income households, persons with disabilities, the elderly, and others with special needs.

This outcome is supported through:

- Assisting families and individuals, including those with special needs, in finding safe housing that they can afford.
- Developing, preserving and maintaining affordable housing.
- Helping families and individuals remain in housing that they have secured.
- Improving skills and behaviors necessary to manage finances and succeed as tenants and neighbors.

Examples of services that support this outcome could include:

- housing counseling
- budget counseling
- legal services to help families and individuals obtain and maintain their housing
- tenant education and good neighbor programs
- housing acquisition and development
- transitional housing programs
- rental assistance of an ongoing nature
- adaptive housing efforts
- enabling households to obtain housing in the private market.
- development of employer assisted housing partnerships
- housing services that help meet the needs of victims of domestic violence

Priority Area 2**Target Funding Percentage 21%****People have the Skills and Supports they Need to be Self-sufficient**

The target funding percentage for this priority area decreased from 23% to 21% between FY 2000 and FY 2001/2002.

Unemployment rates remain very low (1.3%). Public assistance rolls continue to shrink significantly. The Food Stamp average caseload was down to 6,854 persons in 2000 as compared to 12,996 in 1995. Temporary Assistance to Needy Families average caseload levels were at 1,243 in 2000 compared to over 4,500 in 1995. However, the enrollment levels in the Free and Reduced Lunch Program in FCPS are near all-time highs (20,148 children in 2000 - 18% of all school children). The demand for child care remains high and the supply constrained. There continue to be waiting lists in for County operated childcare programs (the Child Care Assistance Program the School Age Child Care program). Fairfax County Public Schools report no overall waiting list for adult English-as-a-Second Language (ESL) services that serve approximately 3,000 clients per year.

Examples of populations that could be supported through this outcome include: low income persons, the elderly, persons with disabilities, immigrants, offenders, and others with special needs.

This outcome is supported through:

- Assisting individuals in obtaining, maintaining, and increasing employment skills, and in finding and maintaining employment that leads to independence.
- Assisting individuals in acquiring or increasing the language skills necessary to succeed in the work place.
- Assisting individuals in acquiring knowledge about workplace norms, practices and expectations.
- Enabling individuals to be employed or to increase their skills because of the availability of child care assistance and/or transportation.

Examples of services that support this outcome could include:

- employment services, such as skills training, job readiness, job-related life skills, job placement, and job retention skills and those employment services that address the needs of persons with disabilities and language minorities
- educational services, such as employment-related English as a second language programs
- child care and child care services that are responsive to the unique needs of the language minority community
- transportation related to employment or education
- case management

Priority Area 3

Target Funding Percentage 18%

Families and Individuals are Healthy, Stable and Independent

The target funding percentage for this priority area increased from 15% to 18% between FY 2000 and FY 2001/2002.

Both Child and Adult Protective services investigations are slightly down over last year and generally stable over the last few years. Teen pregnancy is down. There is a growing need for long-term care services and significant labor market supply issues in this area that impact the elderly and persons with disabilities. Access to dental service for low-income persons without insurance remains severely constrained.

Examples of populations that are supported through this outcome include: families, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and other special needs populations.

This outcome is supported through:

- Enhancing the physical and mental health and well being of families and individuals.
- Improving the functioning of families and individuals.
- Maintaining or improving the ability of individuals to be independent, including persons who are elderly, disabled, or have special needs.
- Providing opportunities for families and individuals, including persons who are elderly, disabled, or have special needs, to participate in community activities.
- Ensuring that people have access to community activities and services.

Examples of services that support this outcome could include:

- mentoring programs
- parenting programs
- life skills oriented literacy programs
- other life skills activities
- child abuse or domestic violence prevention programs
- counseling
- legal assistance regarding family matters
- leisure activities which promote health, well-being, and integration into the community
- outreach, transportation, and other access services for the frail elderly or persons with disabilities.
- home-based services such as respite and personal care
- support for caregivers
- health, dental care, mental health and substance abuse services
- development of employer-based responses to long-term care issues

Priority Area 4**Target Funding Percentage 14%****Youth Make Safe, Responsible Decisions.**

The target funding percentage for this priority area decreased from 15% to 14% between FY 2000 and FY 2001/2002.

While serious and weapons related offenses in the juvenile crime statistics have decreased substantially over the past five years, violence-related (fighting) activities continue to be the most significant reason for school suspensions at the Elementary (199 children in '98-'99) and Middle School levels. Non-attendance and disobedience are the most significant cause of suspension at the high school level. Suspension rates for minority students are higher than non-minority students. The overall school dropout rate is 2.6% and has been relatively constant for the past few years. In addition, over 30% of all dropouts from a particular year return to school the following year. It should be noted that during the coming CCFP funding cycle, new data will be available from an extensive youth risk behavior survey conducted by FCPS and County Human Services ("Communities that Care" survey).

Examples of populations that could be supported through this outcome include: school age youth, including youth with disabilities and immigrant youth.

This outcome is supported through:

- Providing safe activities for youth that reduce personal risk.
- Preventing youth violence.
- Creating opportunities that build character and promote making good choices.
- Providing youth with opportunities to succeed through increasing their knowledge, skills, and abilities.

Examples of services that support this outcome could include:

- After-school and summer activity programs
- transportation to youth programs
- prevention programs that work directly with youth, including those that are experiencing disproportionately high suspension rates and academic performance problems.
- tutoring and other educational programs
- mentoring programs
- second generation-parent acculturation programs
- dropout prevention
- peer mediation
- conflict resolution and anger management
- character building
- substance abuse prevention
- delinquency prevention
- youth community service projects
- social readjustment from institutional settings

Priority Area 5**Target Funding Percentage 11%****Families and Individuals Meet Their Basic Needs**

The target funding percentage for this priority area stayed constant between FY 2000 and FY 2001/2002.

Despite a strong economy in recent years, demand for services that address basic needs such as food, clothing, essential household items, emergency shelter and utility cutoff prevention remains high. Basic immediate needs requests received by Coordinated Services Planning (CSP) totaled 5,171 in 2000, up from 3,650 in 1998. Financial assistance requests totaled another 2,574 requests in 2000. In addition, the recent immigrant and refugee study ("Community Sampler") indicated that 11% of the households surveyed reported difficulty in paying for food in the last 6 months. 13% reported difficulty in paying utility expenses in the last six months. During FY 2000, a total of almost 16,000 individuals had emergency needs met through CCFP-funded programs.

Examples of populations that could be supported through this outcome include: low income families and individuals, including immigrants, the elderly, and persons with disabilities.

This outcome is supported through:

- Enabling families and individuals to meet their needs for food, clothing, furniture, transportation and other essential items.
- Providing one-time or occasional emergency financial assistance to pay for housing-related expenses such as rent, utilities and rent deposits for families and individuals in need of housing, or at risk of losing their housing.
- Educating, representing, or advising families and individuals regarding financial and consumer legal matters.

Examples of services that support this outcome could include:

- emergency food assistance
- clothing
- furniture donations
- short-term or emergency financial assistance
- financial and consumer-related legal assistance.

Priority Area 6**Target Funding Percentage 9%****Communities are Safe, Supportive, Inclusive and Thriving**

The target funding percentage for this priority area stayed constant between FY 2000 and FY 2001/2002.

Fairfax County is a community that has undergone rapid growth and rapid change in the last two decades. Minority membership in the schools has gone from 12% in 1980 to almost 41% in 2000. Households that speak a language other than English at home have risen to almost 31%. The elderly population in Fairfax will grow at a significantly higher rate than the nation as a whole over the next 20 years. These changing demographics require community-based strategies for growing and maintaining a sense of attachment to community.

Examples of populations that could be supported through this outcome include: immigrants and other diverse populations, neighborhoods and communities, neighborhood or community-based organizations, employers, employee groups, and businesses.

This outcome is supported through:

- Building capacity and resources within communities so that they are able to respond to the needs of their members.
- Creating knowledge and awareness within communities so that members can take informed actions to meet needs.
- Increasing the community's understanding of diverse populations such as immigrants, language and ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, & the elderly.
- Assisting immigrants with understanding cultural practices and developing skills, including language skills, that are needed in order to successfully participate in the community.
- Providing immigrants with information and advice about services, rights, responsibilities, immigration issues and the citizenship process.
- Improving the economic health of communities.

Examples of services that support this outcome could include:

- volunteer recruitment
- small business development
- outreach, community education and information activities
- prevention efforts which are targeted to communities
- cultural adaptation and orientation programs and non-employment-related ESL
- immigration assistance and citizenship preparation programs
- consumer education
- programs to increase the economic health and capacity of communities
- activities that generate increased understanding and improved responsiveness
- programs that tap strengths in immigrant and refugee communities
- programs that address community involvement as a strategy for reducing youth risk behavior